

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/604,176

Examiner

Zeev Kitov

Applicant(s)

VOLDMAN, STEVEN H.

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02//17/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 - 19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner acknowledges a submission of the amendment and arguments filed on February 17, 2006. Claims 1 – 3, 7 - 9, 12 and 13 are amended. Amendment and arguments have overcome rejections under 102 (b) and 103(a).

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

An amended independent Claim 1 discloses, inter alia, "a latchup control isolation network electrically coupled to said substrate and positioned in series between said power rail and said sea of gates so as to receive perturbations in voltage potential in said substrate arising from latchup event in said substrate, said latchup control isolation network adapted to electrically isolate said sea of gates from said power rail in response to undesirable perturbations in said voltage-potential in said substrate". The closest references for the claim are Li et al, Lin et al. Li et al. and Blossfeld et al.

Li et al. reference discloses an integrated circuit having: a substrate, a power rail, and a latchup control isolation network electrically coupled to the substrate, the latchup control isolation network adapted to electrically isolate the circuit from the power rail (col. 6, lines 36 – 67). It further discloses an active clamp network. However, it does not disclose the series connected active clamp network electrically isolating the sea of gates from the power supply upon detection of the undesirable perturbations in the voltage-potential in the substrate.

Lin et al. discloses the latch-up protection circuit being used in multiple supplies environment. However, the reference does not disclose the series connected active clamp network electrically isolating the sea of gates from the power supply upon detection of the undesirable perturbations in the voltage-potential in the substrate.

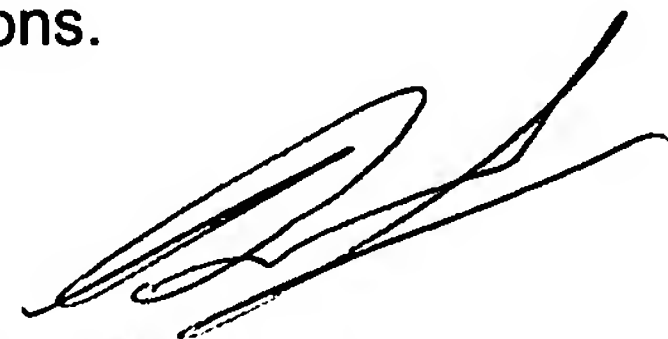
Two other independent Claims 7 and 12, essentially replicate with some variations the same limitation. The Blossfeld et al. reference used in the Office Action does not teach the series connected active clamp network electrically isolating the sea of gates from the power supply upon detection of the undesirable perturbations in the voltage-potential in the substrate.

Allowability resides, at least in part, in the above-described limitations, which has not been disclosed in the Prior Art in a search.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zeev Kitov whose telephone number is (571) 272-2052. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 – 4:30. If attempts to reach examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272 – 2800, Ext. 36. The fax phone number for organization where this application or proceedings is assigned is (571) 273-8300 for all communications.

Z.K.
4/19/2006



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